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**Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) is a 501(c) 4 non-profit corporation formed over twenty years ago in order to effectively advocate for the creation or preservation of state laws, and/or policies designed to protect, preserve, and promote the sustainable and wise use of our state's immense treasure of high quality freshwater resources. Our primary mission will be accomplished by pro-active participation in Michigan's legislative process (lobbying), by participating in court cases whose outcomes may have significant statewide ramifications, and/or by direct involvement with natural resources management, or environment focused state agencies or departments.**

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MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF  
**NATURAL RESOURCES**  
CARING FOR MICHIGAN'S OUTDOOR PLACES AND STORIES SINCE 1921



**Register by Monday, January 10 to receive an early-bird discount of \$95 per person!!**

January 4, 2022

Contact: [Paige Filice](#) (MSU Extension), 517-676-7291 or

[Joe Nohner](#) (DNR), 517-599-6825

**Grow Your Appreciation for Michigan's  
Inland Lakes with Introduction to  
Lakes On-line Course**

Lakes hold a special place in our hearts – no matter if you're a Michigander born and raised, or a visitor to the Great Lakes State – and can provide an escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. Visiting natural areas can improve moods, reduce stress and boost immune systems.

Whether you live on a lake, visit a secret fishing spot or escape the daily grind on a camping trip to a serene lake in the woods, lakes provide irreplaceable benefits to our mental and physical health and deserve our appreciation and attention.

This month, [Michigan State University Extension](#) offers an opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of inland lakes with enrollment in the [Introduction to Lakes Online course](#), a nationally recognized, award-winning, six-week class in a convenient, self-paced online format. The course is designed for anyone who has a passion or curiosity for inland lakes, including lakefront property owners, local government officials, lake managers and educators. Course instructors include MSU Extension educators and state agency personnel.

### Registration and course information

The 2022 course runs January 25 to March 16, and costs \$115 per person. Register by January 10 to receive an early-bird discount of \$95 per person. Registration is open now through January 21. Scholarships are available. Registration information is available on the [Introduction to Lakes course webpage](#).

Since the course was first offered online in 2015, more than 1,000 people across the country have participated. Participants continuously praise the level of content and interaction they have with instructors and other students in the class. One student said, "Hearing from other students broadened my perspective and definition of riparian. I now realize that as each lake is unique, so too are its caregivers and their priorities and concerns."

Students have week-by-week, 24/7 access to six online units, complete with prerecorded video lectures, activities, resources and quizzes. Students communicate with each other and instructors through lively discussion forums and biweekly webinars. Ask-an-Expert webinars provide opportunities to learn from experts at the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Michigan State University and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy. Course topics include lake ecology, watersheds, shorelines, Michigan water law, aquatic plant management and community involvement. A certificate of completion is awarded to those who complete the course, and students receive a free, one-year membership to Michigan Lakes and Streams Association.

Students also can receive continuing education credits, including 16 Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Pesticide Applicator Re-Certification credits and credits in the MSU Extension [Master Citizen Planner](#), [Master Gardener](#), [Master Naturalist](#) and [Conservation Stewards](#) programs.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use, and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generation. For more information, go to [Michigan.gov/DNR](https://Michigan.gov/DNR).

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*The Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership (MGLP) brings together resource agencies, non-profit organizations, and other stakeholders to protect, rehabilitate, and enhance sustainable fish habitats in naturally formed lakes of the Midwest. We foster collaborations on fish habitat science, education and outreach, and conservation.*

## Request for proposals: 2023 Lake Conservation Grant

We request project proposals for funding from the Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership (MGLP) 2023 Lake Conservation Grant. The MGLP is one of twenty partnerships that span the nation under the umbrella of the National Fish Habitat Partnership (NFHP). The MGLP area of focus is glacial lakes and their watersheds as depicted by the recently updated service area in the second article below. Nine Midwestern states, federal agencies including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), U.S. Geological Survey, and the U.S. Forest Service, tribal partners, and private natural resource entities including The Nature Conservancy, have been integral partners in the development and operation of the MGLP.



*Examples of past MGLP projects that have restored natural shorelines (left; photo by Mark Keiser), removed fish passage barriers (center; Joe Nohner), and assessed nutrient loading in the watershed (right; Jerry Sweeten).*

**We support conservation projects that work toward meeting the goals and objectives set forth in the MGLP Strategic Plan to benefit glacial lake fish habitats, which include addressing the chemical, physical, and biological components of the habitats**

**that fishes found in glacial lakes use throughout their lives. We have directed funding toward a wide range of aquatic conservation projects that benefit imperiled, endangered, and recreational fish species and their habitats. We typically fund 3-5 projects annually between \$30,000 and \$100,000, but larger projects will be considered for funding up to a maximum of the approximately \$360,000 expected for distribution. Projects have been successfully implemented because contributions and capabilities of many partners have been combined to accomplish project goals that none of the partnering entities could accomplish on their own.**

**Projects considered for funding must align with the goals and objectives of the MGLP and can range in scale from projects that affect one or more sites, lakes, or watersheds. Projects should address the processes that cause fish habitat impairments as opposed to managing or treating the symptoms of those causes. Examples include, but are not limited to:**

- **projects that implement or demonstrate new approaches**
- **watershed-level nutrient control projects;**
- **water quality and erosion control measures;**
- **native vegetation or wetland rehabilitation;**
- **natural riparian or in-lake habitat restoration and protection;**
- **barrier removal for improved native fish passage;**
- **fish population or watershed assessments needed for project evaluation;**
- **habitat assessment, prioritization and planning for future habitat projects;**
- **evaluating current and future habitat conditions;**
- **projects addressing climate change adaptation or mitigation through fish habitat;**
- **projects training biologists and managers on inland lake fish habitat management tools and approaches; and**
- **community outreach and education on the importance of and how to better conserve glacial lake fish habitat.**

**In addition to conducting independent outreach and/or education, successful applicants will be expected to work with the MGLP to coordinate media and public outreach to raise the profile of MGLP-funded projects.**

**If you have a lake conservation project aligned with the goals and objectives of the MGLP and need financial assistance, we encourage you to submit a proposal for project funding. If you have any questions, please contact Joe Nohner at [nohnerj@michigan.gov](mailto:nohnerj@michigan.gov) or 517-284-6236 or Gary Whelan, MGLP Steering Chair, at [whelang@michigan.gov](mailto:whelang@michigan.gov). Applications for funding are available at the Lake Conservation Grant website. Applications are due on February 18, 2022, and you can**

**submit your application by emailing it to MGLP Coordinator Joe Nohner at [nohnerj@michigan.gov](mailto:nohnerj@michigan.gov).**

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## **ATTENTION READERS!!!**

**In order to add your friends, neighbors, and/or fellow lake or watershed conservation focused association member e-mails to our growing list of water resource conservation minded people who would like to receive this Michigan freshwater resources focused twice monthly newsletter, contact Editor Scott Brown at [scottb1952@gmail.com](mailto:scottb1952@gmail.com)**

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**MICHIGAN  
WATERFRONT  
ALLIANCE**

**>> We Need Your Help!!! <<**

## **Why You Should Join Michigan Waterfront Alliance?**

Do you care for your lake, river, or stream? Do you care enough to contact your state senator or representative about issues that affect your waterbody? Do you keep track of the bills that are important to your lake, river, or stream? The good news is that Michigan Waterfront Alliance (MWA) is doing this for you. MWA hires a lobbying firm to keep track of issues and bills which may affect Michigan's waterfronts, and remain in constant contact with senators and representatives. These lobbyists have relationships with those serving in our state legislature, willing to present bills that MWA would support to help protect Michigan's inland waterways, and help to defeat bills that may be detrimental to our waterways. There is an old saying that "you can't fight city hall." This may be true if you do not know how, but with the help of MWA's attorneys, MWA has the experts that know how to deal with legal issues. There have been laws interpreted incorrectly when it comes to our lakes, rivers, and streams. MWA, with its attorneys, has argued these cases when we believe the law has been misinterpreted.

While the MWA Board of Directors is made up of volunteers, it is expensive to hire lobbyists and attorneys. The Michigan Waterfront Alliance membership is made up of individuals, lake associations, and corporations who care about Michigan's lakes, rivers, and streams. Would you like to be more involved? You can by becoming a

member of Michigan Waterfront Alliance and by becoming an active partner in MWA. Membership in MWA is inexpensive:

**We rely entirely on membership dues to fund the operating costs of our organization...**

**TO BECOME A MEMBER OF  
MICHIGAN WATERFRONT ALLIANCE VISIT OUR  
>>>>> MEMBERSHIP PAGE <<<<<<**

Annual Dues are:

\$50 for an individual;

\$100 for a lake association; and

\$200 for a corporation

With support from individuals like you, lake associations, and corporations, we can continue to work together as a unified voice choosing to protect Michigan's water resources for future generations. Thank you for your consideration!!!



**Michigan Waterfront Alliance  
is a proud member of the**

# Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership

## A Collaborative Partnership Dedicated to Protecting Michigan's Vast Heritage of High Quality Inland Lakes

The Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership (MILP) is made up of a broad range of organizations and agencies that have a common interest - protecting inland lakes. Explore this site to learn more about Michigan's lakes, the organizations involved with the Partnership, and how you can be a part of the effort. You can also follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!

Michigan has more than 11,000 inland lakes. Most are high quality resources highly valued by society for recreation and as places to live. These cultural demands place significant stresses upon these ecosystems, often resulting in undesirable changes. How can these lakes be strategically managed to minimize undesirable changes and protect them for this and future generations?

The purpose of the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership (Partnership) is to engage state and local agencies, Native American Nations, outreach institutions (universities and other educational institutions), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), businesses, industries and citizens in a collaborative effort to ensure the quality, sustainability and ecological diversity of lakes, while considering society's needs. The Partnership will promote communication and cooperation between partners, communities and citizens interested in the management of Michigan's inland lakes, educating leaders, and strengthening stewardship efforts.

The MILP Coordinating Council is the decision-making body of the Partnership. The Council sets the goals of the Partnership, and all Council Partners have a vote in the activities and policies of the Partnership. The Council currently meets four times per year. Coordinating Council member organizations are listed alphabetically below. Clicking on an organization name will take you to that organization's website.

To learn more about the Michigan Inland Lakes Partnership, and its ensemble of inland lake protection focused collaborative organizations, [click here](#)

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## Join Michigan Waterfront Alliance!

- Are you tired of funding the management of aquatic



**invasive species on your lake that were introduced by recreational boaters using the local MI Department of Natural Resources public boating access site?**

- **Are you just a bit angry that recreational boaters using your lake are not being asked to contribute their fair share to combat the negative influences of aquatic invasive species?**
- **Are you worried about the fact that your lakefront residential property values are being negatively influenced by the steadily increasing presence of aquatic invasive species?**
- **Are you concerned about the fact that it is nearly impossible to find an inland lake in Michigan that does not currently host one or more potentially harmful aquatic invasive species?**
- **Are you aware of the fact that inland lakes are Michigan's most valuable natural resource, and that our state legislature has thus far appropriated almost nothing in the way of budget resources to help ensure they remain healthy and viable?**

**If your answer is yes to any of these important questions, please help ensure that your voice is heard in Lansing by joining Michigan Waterfront Alliance today.**

**Click here to Join MWA**

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**Visit the Michigan Waterfront Alliance Web Site by Clicking Here**

**Unsubscribe**

This message was sent to [olivia.kasle@gmail.com](mailto:olivia.kasle@gmail.com) from [scottb1952@gmail.com](mailto:scottb1952@gmail.com)

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